

The Licensing Connection

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE U.S. COPYRIGHT OFFICE LICENSING SECTION

Oreon Pinkston Appointed Chief of Licensing Section

Effective March 22, 2026, Oreon Pinkston was appointed chief of the Licensing Section. Oreon previously served as head of the Information Unit since 2022. Oreon brings deep institutional knowledge and a proven track record of operational excellence to the new position. His transition ensures seamless leadership continuity as the Section continues to modernize its licensing examination and information operations and enhance stakeholder engagement.

“I am honored to lead the Licensing Section and remain dedicated to providing the high level of service and professional accountability our stakeholders expect and deserve,” said Pinkston.



Important Reminders for 2026/1 Statement of Account Filings

The Licensing Section is committed to streamlining the filing process for the upcoming season. As a reminder, we introduced a revised [statement of account form](#) starting with the 2025/2 period. To ensure your 2026/1 filings are accepted without delay, please review the following requirements:

Space B: System ID Entry

- When entering your system ID, do not include leading zeros (for example, enter “1234” instead of “001234”).

Space E: Subscriber and Equipment Data

- Subscriber information: Number of Subscribers and Rate data must begin on line 34.
- Residential line: Ensure the Residential line remains entirely blank.
- Equipment information: Data entry must begin on line 40.
- Equipment line: No information should be entered on the Equipment line itself.

General Data Input Tab (SA3e)

- For those utilizing the General Data Input tab, please confirm lines 41 and 47 are left blank.

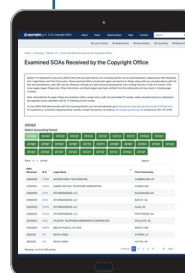
SOA Form Integrity

- No modifications: All tabs on the official form must remain in their original state.
- Rejection policy: Any forms received with renamed, edited, or newly inserted tabs will be automatically rejected, and the remitter will have to refile their statement.

For more information on how to complete the forms, see the instruction sheets for [SA1-2](#) (PDF, 196 KB) and [SA3](#) (PDF, 234 LB), as well as the [FAQs](#) (PDF, 118 KB) on our website.

Filing SOAs for Previous Accounting Periods

- If you need to file any accounting periods prior to 2025/2, please do not use the current form. Instead, contact the Licensing Section for more information by [email](#) or by calling 202-707-3000 and selecting option 5.



SOA Accounting Periods Now Available Online

Examined SOAs for the 2010/1 through 2024/2 accounting periods are now available, with the 2025/1 accounting period to follow.

U.S. Copyright Office Seeks Public Comment on Proposed Adjustments to Fee Schedule

On March 20, the Copyright Office [proposed the adoption of a new fee schedule](#) (PDF, 320 KB). The Office last adjusted fees in 2020, based on a study of its fiscal 2016 and 2017 costs. Since that time, the costs of providing Office services have risen substantially due to inflation and other increases. The proposed fees are intended to enable recovery of a percentage of the Office's costs, closer to historical levels, without imposing undue barriers to access its services.



Copyright Royalty Judges Announced Royalty Rates and Terms for Digital Performance of Sound Recordings and Making of Ephemeral Copies to Facilitate Those Performances

On March 10, the Copyright Royalty Judges published four final rules in the *Federal Register* governing the rates and terms for the digital performance of sound recordings, via webcasting, by (1) [noncommercial educational webcasters](#) (PDF, 220 KB), (2) [Educational Media Foundation](#) (PDF, 219 KB), (3) [commercial broadcasters](#) (PDF, 224 KB), and (4) [certain public radio stations](#) (PDF, 220 KB), and for their making of ephemeral recordings necessary for the facilitation of such transmissions for the period commencing January 1, 2026, and ending on December 31, 2030.

The Judges also [published a final rule](#) (PDF, 273 KB) governing the rates and terms for the digital performances of sound recordings by new subscription services and for the making of ephemeral recordings necessary to facilitate those transmissions for the period commencing January 1, 2026, and ending on December 31, 2030. The Judge subsequently [published an adjustment](#) (PDF, 263 KB) to these rates on March 30.

2026/1 Deadlines

SATELLITE: The \$725 filing fee per statement in addition to the appropriate royalty fee is to be filed between **July 1 and July 30**, inclusive.*

CABLE: The filing fee (\$15 for SA-1, \$20 for SA-2, or \$725 for SA-3) per statement in addition to the appropriate royalty fee is to be filed between **July 1 and August 29**, inclusive.*

INTEREST RATES: The [Interest Rate Table](#) has been revised to include the latest accounting period (2025/2).

**Please remit the royalty fee and filing fee in one EFT payment.*

Want More TLC Updates?

For previous issues, visit us on the web at copyright.gov/licensing.

To be added to the mailing list for future issues, contact us at licensing@copyright.gov.

Need more information about your topic of interest? Email your suggestions to licensing@copyright.gov.

Subscribe to NewsNet

NewsNet is an electronic newsletter that updates the licensing community about copyright regulations and procedures for statutory licenses. To subscribe, visit the Copyright Office's [website](#).

Follow us on X
[@CopyrightOffice](#)



Out and About

Licensing Section staff may be available to attend or participate in upcoming conferences. Request our attendance or participation via the Copyright Office's [Speaker Request Form](#).